

“my blackness”

[poem by eliora agbenohevi '26]

My Blackness is everywhere
it is in my hair
it is in my joy
it is in my ambition
it is in my personality
it is my identity
it is in my purpose
it is in your microaggressions
it is in your judgment
it is in your internalized hatred
it is in your lack of understanding
but nonetheless, my Blackness is excellence
My Blackness is the product of the struggles of those who came before me
My Blackness is beautiful and defines who I am

i killed you

[pencil drawing by andrea nyamede '27]

04 spring 2025

“I Killed You”

Artist statement: Colored Pencil Drawing

I was inspired by the song “I Killed You”, which talks about the struggles of Black people accepting their natural hair. I wanted to embrace this concept & show the beauty of natural and protective hairstyles.

These works were selected anonymously by my peers on the Burn literary magazine staff for inclusion in our Spring 2025 edition of the magazine. The page designers placed a transparent/muted version in the background and the full illustration again in the lower right corner of the page. The poem at the top shows a great connection to the illustration. It was written by a friend of mine. The full spread is pictured below. This literary/art magazine was recognized nationally at the JEA/NSPA Fall Convention in Nashville. It was an honor to have my art selected for the showcase.

Thank you for considering this artistic illustration for NSAA State Journalism.

Andrea Nyamede '27

“my blackness”

[poem by eliora agbenohevi '26]

My Blackness is everywhere
it is in my hair
it is in my joy
it is in my ambition
it is in my personality
it is my identity
it is in my purpose
it is in your microaggressions
it is in your judgment
it is in your internalized hatred
it is in your lack of understanding
but nonetheless, my Blackness is excellence
My Blackness is the product of the struggles of those who came before me
My Blackness is beautiful and defines who I am

i killed you

[pencil drawing by andrea nyamede '27]

04 spring 2025

in another life

[digital photo by reese eggers '26]

“broken sink”

[poem by castoria agbeley '26]

You told me you could fix it
Bandages don't fix holes in the wall but yet you insist on sticking them there
You taped and you pounded with only a hammer
You told me you could fix it and I believed you but you left a bigger hole
Can you fix the hole you left in my heart?
Or will you make it bigger with a hammer and put bandages that don't stick anymore?
You told me you could fix it but you lied
You told me you could fix it, and I fell for it
You told me you could fix it, but you only destroyed it
I don't have anything to pay you back with but my tears
And now I'm out of tears
You told me you could fix it
but now I'm beyond repair
Feel my heart and put the pieces back together then kiss me
and tell me you love me in my despair
Hold me and tell me that I'm beyond repair
Fix me and fix me until I don't need you there
Fix me till my heart is in repair

burn 05